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INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON THE TEACH-  
ING OF MATHEMATICS—PRELIMINARY  
REPORT IN OUTLINE.\*

BY BERTHA LILLIAN BROOMELL.

In the unavoidable absence of Prof. David Eugene Smith the following report was given:—

The section, "Philosophy, History and Education," of the Fourth International Congress of Mathematicians held at Rome, April 6-11, 1908, made to the Congress on the initiative of Professor David Eugene Smith, of New York, a proposition to create an international commission for the purpose of making "a comparative examination of the methods and plans of the study and teaching of mathematics in the secondary schools of the different nations."

The congress adopted the resolution and appointed Professor Felix Klein, of Göttingen, Professor Sir Alfred George Greenhill, of London, and Professor H. Fehr, of Geneva, to organize such a commission and to report to the next congress in Cambridge, England, in 1912.

These gentlemen have since adopted a general plan of organization and work, including the representation on the commission of the different countries, the provision of necessary funds, the official organ of publication and the official languages of correspondence and reports, the general aim of the commission, and the method and scope of its work.

The commission will consider the present conditions of organization and method of mathematical instruction, the aims of such instruction and the branches taught in the various kinds of schools, the methods of conducting examinations in the different countries, and the preparation of teachers. It will also consider the modern tendencies in mathematical teaching in regard to the inter-relation of subjects, the connection between mathematical and other studies, the practical applications of mathematics, the history of the subject, etc. It will also investigate the question of positive dangers in current reform movements in order to guard against these.

TEACHERS COLLEGE,  
NEW YORK CITY.

\* Read at the annual meeting, Lancaster, Pa.